

76th STUDENT SENATE Senate Resolution

Resolution #: 10

Primary Sponsor(s): Bevis

Co-Sponsor(s): Blackwell, Carr, Goldstein, Gutierrez, Kerley, Lalani, Lansdale, Larancuent, McEnery, Navarro, Pu, Raiford, Rodriguez, Srivastava, Stuart, Syska, Vandermuelen, Vargheese

Date: 1/14/24

Whereas: the Florida State University Board of Trustees has voted unanimously to file a lawsuit against the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC), and

Whereas: the board took legal action due to years of underperformance and mismanagement related to the handling of multi-media rights and broadcast revenues by the ACC, and

Whereas: the Board believes that the ACC has failed in its obligations to maximize athletic opportunities, generate significant revenues, and place its members at the forefront of athletic achievement, and

Whereas: the ACC's underperformance has resulted in an inferior broadcast contract for FSU and other ACC schools, leading to less revenue, visibility, prestige, and leverage compared to other Power Four conferences, and

Whereas: the financial gap between the ACC and other Power Four conferences is expected to widen, putting FSU at a noticeable disadvantage when it comes to funding institutional advancement and participating in elite athletic championships, and

Whereas: the ACC's Grant of Rights and severe withdrawal penalty prevent FSU from exercising its right to realign with another conference, and

Whereas: FSU's leadership has made repeated attempts to resolve these issues with the ACC, with little action taken by the conference, and

Whereas: legal action has been deemed necessary to protect Florida State's athletic ambitions, which are not being met by the ACC's leadership.

Be it resolved by the Seventy-Sixth Student Senate at Florida State University that: the Student Senate of Florida State University expresses its full support for the decision of the Board of Trustees to file a lawsuit against the ACC.

Be it further resolved that: we encourage the ACC to address the concerns raised by FSU's leadership and work towards a fair and equitable resolution that benefits the university and its athletic program.

Be it further resolved that: we acknowledge the legal claims of restraint of trade, breach of contract, and failure to perform, and supports FSU's pursuit of a resolution through the legal process.

Be it further resolved that: we encourage all students, faculty, and staff to stay informed about the developments of the lawsuit.

Be it further resolved that: a copy of this resolution be sent to:

Dr. Richard McCullough, President, Florida State University Dr. Amy Hecht, Vice President for Student Affairs Jack Hitchcock, Student Body President Peter Collins, Chair of the FSU Board of Trustees Michael Alford, Vice President and Director of Athletics

OFFICIAL: _	July Artic	1/26/2024 2:45 PM PST
	Senate President Senate President	

SENATE VOTE: Unanimous Consent **PASSED:** January 24, 2024